

"This We Declare"

1 Thessalonians & 2 Thessalonians

February 24, 2013

"he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved." (Ephesians 1:5-6, ESV)

God Has Predestined His Children Not To Wrath But For Salvation Through Jesus Christ, (vs. 5: 9)

- II We must pay much closer attention to how we put into practice what we say we believe, (vs. 4: 1 – 5: 28)
- B. The revelation of God requires that His children be informed about the reality of the last day, (vs. 4: 13 – 5: 11)

4. A Correct Understanding Of The Last Day Requires A Proper View Of The Events, (vs. 16)

16.1) The Return Of Christ Will Be No Slight Thing **"The Lord Himself Will Descend** (Pres.Mid.Ind)"-
"For the Son of Man is going to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay each person according to what he has done." (Matthew 16:27, ESV)

16.2) The Return Of Christ Will Be No Peaceful Thing **"Cry Of Command / Voice Of An Archangel / Trumpet Of God"**- *"Like warriors they charge; like soldiers they scale the wall. They march each on his way; they do not swerve from their paths. They do not jostle one another; each marches in his path; they burst through the weapons and are not halted. They leap upon the city, they run upon the walls, they climb up into the houses, they enter through the windows like a thief. The earth quakes before them; the heavens tremble. The sun and the moon are darkened, and the stars withdraw their shining. The LORD utters his voice before his army, for his camp is exceedingly great; he who executes his word is powerful. For the day of the LORD is great and very awesome; who can endure it?" (Joel 2:7-11, ESV)*

16.3) The Return Of Christ Will Be An Unimaginably Glorious Thing **"Dead In Christ Rise** (Pres.Mid.Ind) **First"**- *"...Also I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for the testimony of Jesus and for the word of God, and those who had not worshiped the beast or its image and had not received its mark on their foreheads or their hands. They came to life and reigned with Christ for a thousand years. The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were ended. This is the first resurrection. Blessed and holy is the one who shares in the first resurrection! Over such the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ, and they will reign with him for a thousand years." (Revelation 20:4-6, ESV)*

1) "But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, 2) and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, 3) and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed. 4) Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, 5) because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn! 6) But according to his promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells." (2 Peter 3:10-13, ESV)

- 1) The Day of the Lord will not be previously announced; it will occur, no one knows when.
- 2) The Day of the Lord will be unmistakable; it will occur and no one will miss it.
- 3) The Day of the Lord will bring judgment to all; some to reward, some to perdition.
- 4) The Day of the Lord should materially affect the life of the believer.
- 5) The Day of the Lord is for the recreating of all things.
- 6) The Day of the Lord is not to be feared by the believer but anticipated.

Does the order of events in the Lord's return materially affect what you do?

5. A Correct Understanding Of The Last Day Requires A Proper View Of The Intended Outcome, (vs. 17)
6. A Correct Understanding Of The Last Day Requires A Proper Application Of God's Ordination, (vs. 18)
7. A Correct Application Of The Last Day Does Not Require Any Special Revelation; It Is Plain, (vs. 5: 1-2)
8. A Correct Application Of The Last Day Does Not Require Present Events As A "Trigger", (vs. 3)
9. A Correct Application Of The Last Day Protects The Child Of God From Surprise, (vs. 4)
10. A Correct Application Of The Last Day Is An Ontological Matter Not Just Theological, (vs. 5)
11. A Correct Application Of The Last Day Must Make Distinctions Between Persons, (vs. 6-7)
12. A Correct Application Of The Last Day Is Not Escapism But Marching Orders, (vs. 8)
13. A Correct Application Of The Last Day Mandates The Active Declaration Of The Gospel, (vs. 9)
14. A Correct Application Of The Last Day Does Not Focus On The Timing Of The Day, (vs. 10)
15. A Correct Application Of The Last Day Focuses On The Building Of Christ's Church More & More, (vs. 11)

C. The revelation of God requires that His children are found blameless at the Lord's return, (vs. 5: 12 - 28)

- III We must pay much closer attention to why we must live with self discipline under God's word, (2 Ths. 1: 1-3: 18)
- A. The wrath of God is a very present reality for those who do not believe the gospel, (vs. 1: 1 - 12)
 - B. The wrath of God is a very present reality governed by the ordained decrees of God, (vs. 2: 1 - 17)
 - C. The wrath of God is a very present reality that must be avoided even in its temporal aspects, (vs. 3: 1 - 18)